CLAIMS

1. A mechanism for securing together room sized modular building units in the construction of a building, comprising mutually aligned detent means on the facing outside walls of each pair of adjacent modular building units, link means to be lowered between two adjacent but mutually spaced modular building units in the final building for engaging with the mutually aligned detent means to lock them together in the vertical direction, and resilient means permitting the link means to engage the detent means but preventing movement in the return direction.

2. A mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the resilient means comprises spring supports for the link means permitting the link means to deflect and pass under the detent means as the link means is lowered, and to spring back beneath the detent means to prevent return movement.

3. A mechanism according to claim 2, wherein the link means comprise a pair of out-turned flanges on the bottom edges of the spring supports, and the detent means comprises a pair of channel members secured to the outside of the modules so that the flanges engage beneath the channels when the link means is lowered into the space between adjacent building modules.

4. A mechanism according to claim 3, wherein the spring supports depend from a base plate which is wide enough to span the space between adjacent modules and which in use is secured to the tops of the building modules to prevent relative movement therebetween in the horizontal plane.

5. A mechanism according to claim 4, wherein a further pair of spring supports extend upwardly from the base plate to terminate in outwardly directed flanges for engaging over the tops of a further pair of channel

members secured to the outside of the modules as the next layer of modules is moved into position to form the next storey of the building.

6. A mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the link means comprises a pin member extending transversely across the space between adjacent building modules and supported by an insert bar on which the pin member can be lowered into the said space; and the detent means is a channel member on the outside wall of each building module comprising a guide channel for guiding the opposite end portions of the pin member.

7. A mechanism according to claim 6, wherein the resilient means is a spring member which includes an aperture into which an end of the pin can be received, so that lowering of the link means into the space between the building modules causes deflection of the spring member until the end of the pin is received in the aperture, whereupon the spring member springs back to retain the pin member.

8. A mechanism according to claim 7, wherein the ends of the pin member have shoulders which engage behind a guide slot in the channel member to restrain the linked building modules against relative movement in the horizontal plane.

9. A method of constructing a building from a number of room sized modular building units, comprising linking together adjacent modular building units using a mechanism according to any preceding claim, and securing over the horizontal junctions between the tops of adjacent modular building units a metal sheet in which is formed a gutter for conducting rain water or condensation from the top of each storey of modular building units in the building to the outside of the building.